

Winter 2015

# *What's Goin' On* Around Town COMMUNITY NEWSLETTERS

Volume 12 - Quarter 4



## BENSALEM TOWNSHIP

### MAYOR & TOWNSHIP COUNCIL



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Dear Neighbors,

The holidays are a good time to celebrate with family and friends and also to reflect on the year that will soon pass. As we look ahead into the new year it is my wish you have good health and happiness.

As the year ends we look forward to many exciting projects in Bensalem. Our riverfront remains a strong focus of redevelopment, as well as the continuation of road re-surfacing and proposed walking and bicycle paths running parallel to the beautiful Delaware River. To that end, we are securing land on both the Neshaminy and Poquesssing Creeks for future open space initiatives.

And as a new year begins we will continue to provide excellent services. Building and Planning provides permits and inspections, Public Works coordinates the repair of pot-holes, fix street signs, plow snow and all other maintenance items. The best police force in Bucks County and Pennsylvania is here to serve and protect our residents. Let me be clear, you are tax-payers and you expect and deserve these services.

These services cost money. With this being said and as I have strongly advised for the past several years, the road ahead continues to be a slippery slope with respect to a manageable municipal services budget that can remain strong to continue to provide the services that taxpayers expect and deserve.



**Township Building  
will be closed  
December 24th & 25th  
and January 1st.**





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**Christmas Tree pick-up starts Jan. 6th thru 23rd**

**Wednesday** If your trash is collected on Monday/Thursday or live in the neighborhoods of Salem Point and Country village

**Thursday** If your trash is collected on Tuesday/Friday

**Saturday** If you live in the neighborhoods of Linconia Park, Nottingham & Stanwood Garden



## BENSALEM P.A.L.

The Bensalem Township Police Department proudly announces the expansion of their P.A.L. (Police Activities League) program. Along with other numerous initiatives the Bensalem Police spearhead, this is still the only official P.A.L. in Bucks County. The program is funded solely by donations received from business and local community members. Because this program offers free recreational and educational activities we are able to provide opportunities for youth that may not ordinarily be given these chances. P.A.L. is a youth, crime prevention program that utilizes educational, athletic, and recreational activities to foster relationships between our youth and the police department.

Bensalem Police P.A.L. programs currently consist of a summer youth basketball league with 240 youth participants, a flag football tournament, a street hockey

league, and field trips to a Phillies game and an Eagles training camp practice. 2016 P.A.L. programs will include bowling, kickball and wiffleball.

We need and welcome new sponsors to help make this program a huge success. No donation is too small to help children foster friendships and stay actively involved in our community. We hope to team up with local business and community members such as you to make this a success. Why do we do it? As our motto says "Because Every Kid Needs A **P.A.L.**". "Youth Comes but Once in a Lifetime" so lets make it one they will remember.

Interested in sponsoring or just looking for more information, please contact Bensalem P.A.L. at 215-633-3655 ext 3990 or visit the P.A.L. website at [Bensalempolice.org](http://Bensalempolice.org). Please make checks payable to Bensalem Township and address attn: Tracey Buechner.



## I.R.S. Scam

The Bensalem Township Police Department wants to warn everybody about a current scam that is very active in our area. It is a phony call from the Internal Revenue Service.

This scam preys on the fears of the elderly, the fears of those who are here on Visas and anyone that can be intimidated. The call that comes to you is routed through a computer program that makes it impossible to track back to a true location. The names they give you are fake and their badge numbers are fake. The only thing that is true about them is they will drain your account if you give them the chance.

The imposters may take the time to find out information about you from the internet. This helps their scam when they talk to you. Limiting personal information on social networks can help eliminate this resource. Unfortunately, there is still plenty of information these imposters can obtain before they reach out to you. Do not let this coerce you into giving them any additional information about you on the telephone.

The I.R.S. will not call you on the phone if there is a

tax dispute. You will receive a letter or your tax representative will receive a letter explaining that there is a concern about your taxes (or Class Action Lawsuit). The I.R.S. will not use the local police department to arrest you. Any legitimate action by the I.R.S. will involve certified letters and an appointment at the Federal Building in Philadelphia. If you were a victim of this scam you need to do the following:

- 1) Contact your Bank and Credit Card companies and advise them of what happened.
- 2) Make a police report for the fraud that occurred.
- 3) Contact "TRANSUNION, EXPERIAN and EQUIFAX" on-line to report this fraud on your account.
- 4) Call the I.R.S. at 1-800-366-4484 or go to their website that is set up for this scam.  
<https://www.treasury.gov/tigta/contact>. Fill out the form and submit it.

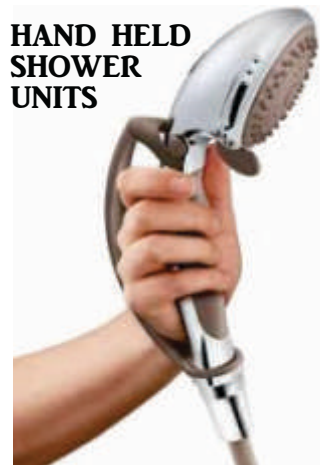
Becoming aware of this scam is half the battle. If you still have any concerns about the legitimacy of the phone call, you can call your local police department or the I.R.S. directly at the listed number.



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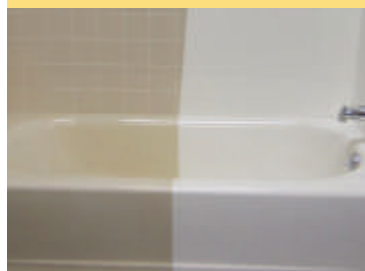


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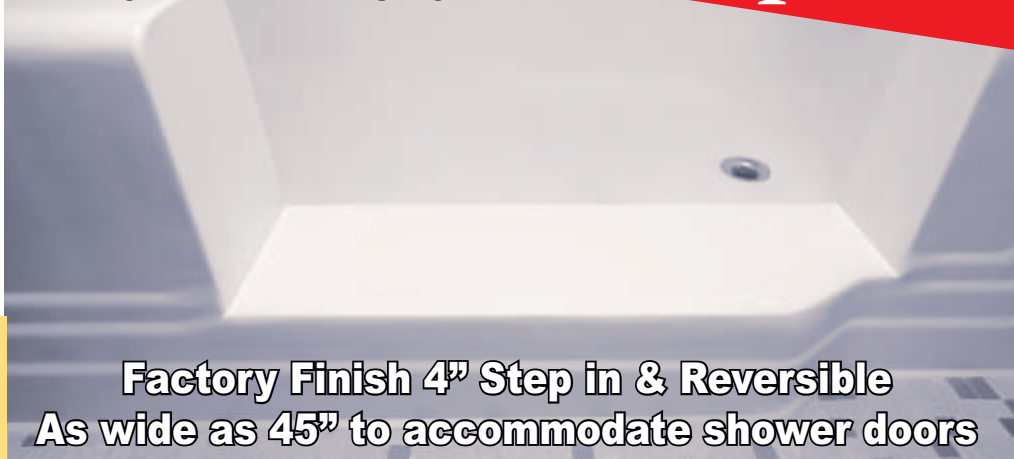
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## BENSALEM POLICE PARTICIPATED IN TOUGH MUDDER EVENT

In October 16 members of the Bensalem Township Police Department, along with the Director of Public Safety Fred Harran, participated in a fundraiser for wounded veterans. The event known as "Tough Mudder" was a 10.2 mile course and involved 26 different obstacles. Tough Mudder is a long-time supporter of the Wounded Warrior Project and its mission is to honor and empower Wounded Warriors. To date, Tough Mudder participants have raised more than \$8.5 million for the Wounded Warrior Project.

Members of the Bensalem Township Police Department were honored to help support such a great cause.



## BENSALEM POLICE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES VOLLMER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN FORENSIC SCIENCE

Members of the Bensalem Township Police Department were recently honored by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). The Bensalem officers received the international **August Vollmer Excellence in Forensic Science Award**, which recognizes the significant impact forensic science has on criminal investigations.

Bensalem Police were recognized for their innovative local DNA database that was created in 2010 to combat the epidemic of local offenders committing the majority of offenses in their community. Since the program's inception, Bensalem Police have collected more than 13,000 DNA samples from suspects and crime scenes and these samples have been instrumental in more than 250 criminal investigations and prosecutions. This program has played a role in major investigations, but most importantly, it allows for the identification of suspects in criminal offenses, which prevents them from committing future crimes by stopping them in their tracks. This program has now been adopted by all police departments in Bucks County.



Members of the department that were recognized: Director of Public Safety Fred Harran, Lieutenants Dave Richardson and Bill McVey, Sergeants Keith Christie and Bob Bugsch, and Detective Glenn Vandegrift.

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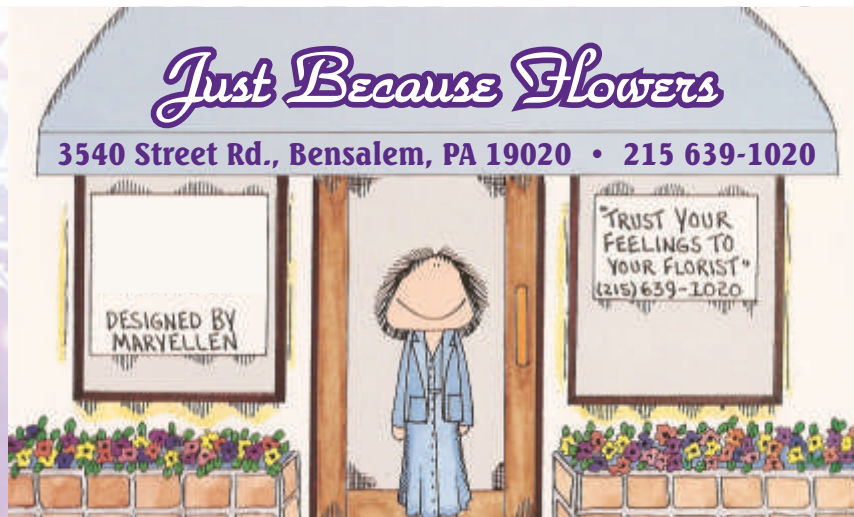


## BENSALEM TOWNSHIP FIRE RESCUE

On October 29, 2015, Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA) dedicated a memorial bench in the Crime Victims Commemorative Arbor at Core Creek Park in honor of the late Bensalem Township Police Department detective, Kevin Cornish. Det. Cornish was a good friend and avid supporter of NOVA and the Bucks County Children's Advocacy Center for many years. He was a strong supporter of victims and their families, and was passionate about his investigations and he worked hard to prosecute offenders.

Det. Cornish was a big advocate of the multi-discipline team model and was an avid supporter of the Bucks County Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) since its inception. He understood the need for comprehensive teamwork and the need for services for children and families experiencing allegations of sexual abuse, physical abuse and severe neglect. Not only was Det. Cornish one of the first law enforcement officers advocating for the development of a Children's Advocacy Center in Bucks County, he followed through by volunteering for almost every committee; providing hours of feedback and guidance to various other police departments; assisting in writing and revising policies; and assisting with fundraising efforts. He was trained as a forensic interviewer and was often utilized by the CAC to assist with our most challenging cases.

At the 4th Annual Bucks County Crimes Against Children Conference on March 10, 2015, Detective Cornish was posthumously awarded the 2015 'Outstanding Service Award' for his dedication and commitment to helping child abuse victims. Each year, recognition is given to a professional who demonstrates excellence in protecting children from the devastating impact of abuse and exploitation. The 'Outstanding Service Award' is intended to recognize those who have made a significant positive contribution to services that address child abuse and exploitation in their community. Detective Kevin Cornish exemplified all of these qualities. Det. Cornish's legacy reminds us of the words of Albert Pine, "What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal."



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## BENSALEM TOWNSHIP FIRE RESCUE

Bensalem Township Fire Rescue is a division of the Department of Public Safety and is the career fire department for the township. Bensalem Fire Rescue was established in 2010, prior to that it was known as the Bensalem Township Fire Marshal's Office and before that as the Bensalem Township Bureau of Fire Prevention.

BTFR responds to all fire, rescue, and hazardous material incidents within the township during hours of operation. Some of the items the department is also responsible for are fire investigations, fire prevention inspections, fire prevention / education programs, fire code plan review and the Bensalem Township Public Safety Training Center.



Bensalem Township Fire Rescue (Engine 222):  
2014 Pierce Saber Rescue Pumper



The original Engine 222: 1988 Seagrave  
Pumper (old Engine 65 Nottingham FD)



Bensalem Fire Rescue takes pride in educating community members in the importance of fire prevention and education. These programs are a key to a fire safe community.



Firefighters from Bensalem Township Fire Rescue demonstrate the improper use of a turkey fryer at the Bensalem Township Public Safety Training Center.



Members of the Bensalem Township Department of Public Safety at the Bensalem Township Salutes America Celebration.

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# What's Goin' On AROUND BENSLEM!



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# BENSALEM TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT 2015 WINTER ACTIVITIES

## BENSALEM 2016 PROGRAMS

The Parks and Recreation Department is pleased to announce a new summer recreation extension program for the 2016 summer season. This program will bridge the gap between the end of our program and the beginning of a new school year.

If this program interests you, please contact our Parks and Recreation Department to be placed on a database of interested potential participants. The program commences the week of August 8th and concludes August 18th. The hours are Monday through Thursday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. The location will be the beautiful Bensalem Community Park.

Please contact us early as the initiation of the program depends on community interest. If this program will benefit you and your children, please call us at 215-633-3724.



## LETTER TO SANTA OPEN TO BENSALEM RESIDENTS

Write a letter to "SANTA CLAUS, NORTH POLE" C/O Bensalem Parks and Recreation Department 2400 Byberry Road, Bensalem PA 19020 or drop off at Santa's mailbox located outside the Parks and Recreation Office. **Be sure to include your name, age and address.** All letters to Santa must be received by December 11th so Santa has time to get back to you before his big trip around the world.



## BENSALEM TOWNSHIP SPRING FIELD HOCKEY PROGRAM

Invites all Bensalem girls' grades 1 thru 8 to sign up and play Junior Field Hockey. All girls who are new will receive an official field hockey stick, ball, mouth guard and shin guards to keep as their own (\$75). There will be practices one night a week for an hour (6-7 pm). Games will be held on Saturday mornings at the Bensalem Community Park. This program will begin early April and run thru early June.

**Fee:** \$75.00 for all new girls/and girls who need new equipment \$50.00 for girls who do not need equipment.  
**Make Check Payable to:** Bensalem Township. A **\$10.00 late** registration fee will apply to anyone who registers after the March 11, 2016 deadline. If you are interested call 215-633-3616 leave your name, address, and telephone number and an application will be sent to you.

## 2016 PLAY AREA AND EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM

Parks and Recreation will extend the convenient payment plans for our 2016 recreational seasons. This includes the Play Area, Little Tikes, Musical, Teen and Extended Day Program. You must contact us by February 1st. We encourage you to call if you have an interest or need clarification. Please note this is a limited enrollment program.

If you are returning to the Extended Day Program, please call 215-633-3616 to leave your name, address and telephone number and a special application will be sent to you. The convenient payment plan is a service to our residents and their families to ensure all that wish to participate have the opportunity.

## FREE MEDICARE INSURANCE SEMINAR

Presented by Bensalem Lion Club January 21st 2016. This must attend seminar is especially designed for those adults turning 65 years of age or those preparing for retirement. Quest speaker Susan Lane one of the area's leading Medicare Insurance Specialist will be at the Bensalem Community Park from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm January 21st, 2016 to assist all interested parties with any questions regarding the Medicare process. If you would like to join us please call 215-633-3724 to register for this informative seminar.



## SOCCER SHOTS

Registrations begin January. Soccer Shots is the soccer experience for kids ages 2-7. Soccer Shots focuses on the skills and lessons of the game by offering non-competitive classes. Each child learns the fundamentals of the game through principled high-energy instruction, creative and age appropriate games, scrimmaging, and soccer fun! We are changing the lives of young people forever by teaching principles and life skills like confidence, respect, honesty, and teamwork. This spring, Soccer Shots will provide a program in partnership with the Bensalem Parks and Rec Department for the first time. Here are the program details: (30-40 minute class per age group, 6 weeks) for registrations go to [Lowerbucks.soccershots.org](http://Lowerbucks.soccershots.org), any questions call 215-633-3724. Registrations begin in January 2016

**Location:** Firefighters Field

**Dates:** Saturdays, April 9th - May 14th

**Cost per Registrant:** \$80.00

**Start Times:** Ages 5-7 3:00 p.m.

Ages 3-4 3:45 p.m.

Age 2 4:30 p.m.

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## THE MCCARTNEY YEARS CONCERT AND FALL FIREWORKS BRINGS TD BANK AMPHITHEATER SEASON TO A CLOSE

We enjoyed a fabulous night October 24th as The McCartney Years took the stage on a cool Fall night to entertain a historic concert crowd of TD Bank Amphitheater Fans and other music lovers. Needless to say (but we will anyway!), we had a great time singing and dancing along with the crowd as the band played a host of hits made popular by Paul & Linda McCartney & Wings as well as the songs that brought a kick to your step and sometimes a tear to your eyes like Beatles Classics, "Hey Jude" and "Let It Be".

Even if you were not a Beatles Fan, you couldn't help but be caught up in the comradery of the night. Thanks to our staff, our volunteers and of course our sponsors. We are currently coordinating the 2016 concert season. Everybody wants to play on our stage! We promise to bring you yet another great season of entertainment.

Your best bet to support these concerts is to purchase a Season Pass. The 2016 Season Pass will be available Monday, December 7th. For only \$35.00 you have access to 12 concerts, and gain entrance to the park 30 minutes before the main gates open for general paid admission. These would make an excellent gift or stocking stuffer...



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# What's Goin' On **AROUND BENSLEM!**



**Brian Gunn**



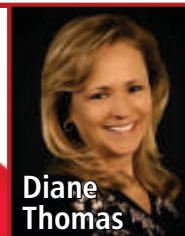
**Ann Marie Walsh**



**Bud & Barb Silcox**



**Paul Stout**



**Diane Thomas**



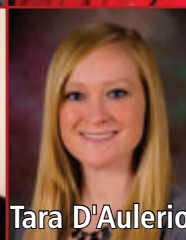
**Randy Stephe**



**Pat Luszc**



**Chris McC.**



**Tara D'Aulerio**



**Jim Byrd**

**kw**

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**R**eal estate agents remain as popular as ever among consumers — offering the latest hint that, contrary to some predictions, the Internet has actually bolstered demand for their services, according to a recent survey released by the National Association of Realtors (NAR).

The share of sellers who used real estate agents hit a historic high in 2015, rising to 89 percent from 88 percent the year before, according to 'NARs2015 Profile of

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Building a Better Bensalem Together's  
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Presents the  
11th Annual Unity Week

Monday, January 18, 2016 thru Friday,  
January 22, 2016.

Look for our schedule on or before  
January 1, 2016.

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<http://www.bensalempa.gov>

On The Bensalem Township  
Community TV Station

BCT can be viewed on Comcast Cable  
Channel 22 in Bensalem, and  
Verizon Fios Channel 34 throughout  
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Bensalem Community Television is  
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On the B3T Website  
[www.BensalemB3T.org](http://www.BensalemB3T.org)

*What's Goin' On*  
**Around Town**  
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTERS

# 215-357-PRNT

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*What's Goin' On*  
**Around Town**  
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTERS

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**January 7th, 2016 \*6:30 pm @ Holy Family U. Woodhaven, Bensalem Guest Speaker: Mayor Joseph DiGirolamo**

**BENSALEM**  
Business Directory.com



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To Advertise Call

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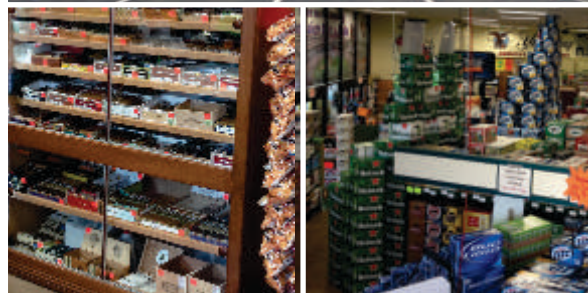
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